

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in view of the Office Action mailed July 22, 2009. All rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

The undersigned has separately submitted a summary of several interviews with Examiner Winter regarding this application and respectfully requests the courtesy of a further interview in this application should the enclosed amendments not be compliant with the agreements reached in these interviews. The present Office Action is the EIGHTH in the present case which has been pending for approximately eight years. Applicants wish to finally resolve the disposition of the present application at the earliest possible time.

Regarding the Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Applicants have amended in the manner indicated by Examiner Winter during the interview, and the claims are submitted to be in compliance with the latest understanding of requirements for statutory subject matter.

Regarding the Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution.

Claim Amendments

Examiner Winter and his SPE reviewed the specification and suggested that the features that have been added to the claims would distinguish over the known art. While the undersigned feels that additional claims also distinguish, the present amendment is submitted in order to expedite prosecution of the present application and notes that certain of the claim elements suggested by the examiner have already been claimed in multiple claims previously. No admissions are made hereby that the prior submitted claims fail to distinguish patentably over the known art.

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In view of the discussions with Examiner Winter, the present claims are believed to clearly distinguish over the art. Further discussion as to additional distinctions are believed to be unnecessary at this time. Failure to address each point raised in the Office Action should accordingly not be viewed as accession to the Examiner's position or an admission of any sort. Applicants reserve the right to provide additional arguments if necessary in relation to any of the rejected claims and reserve the right to pursue additional claims in continuing applications if they deem it to be appropriate.

In view of the discussion above, the newly submitted claims are believed clearly in proper condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested and notice of allowance for all pending claims is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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